11.	M/s Myanmar Post and Telegraph	Voice
12.	M/s Sri Lanka Telecom	Voice
13.	M/s QiComm, UK	Voice
14.	M/s Metrofi-Online, USA	Voice
15.	M/s Belgacom, Belgium	Voice
16.	M/s Cable and Wireless, UK	Voice
17.	M/s IDT ASIA	Voice
18.	M/s Jaina Networks System	Voice
19.	M/s C&W, India	Data
20.	M/s PCCW Global, Hong Kong	Data

Access deficit charges

2323. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecom regulator TRAI had abolished Access Deficit Charges (ADC), a levy paid by private telecom operators to BSNL for meeting the cost of unprofitable operations in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Supreme Court of India has issued notice to 11 private operators and TRAI on a petition filed by BSNL in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. (TRAI) *vide* its 9th Amendment to the Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC) Regulation dated 27th March 2008 has completely phased out Access Deficit Charge (ADC) being received by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to recoup the deficits incurred by BSNL to meet the social obligations of providing below cost fixed telephone services particularly in the rural areas.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. BSNL challenged the TRAI's IUC Regulation dated 23-02-2006, 21-03-2007, 27-03-2008 as per Appeal No.6 of 2006, 5 of 2007 and 5 of 2008 respectively before the Hon'ble TDSAT. The Hon'ble TDSAT had dismissed all the three Appeals of BSNL *vide* its Order dated 12-5-2009 and observed that BSNL has no legal right for getting ADC, ADC is depleting regime and ADC was rightly terminated in year 2008-09.

In this regard, BSNL has filed Civil Appeal No.6128 of 2009, 6184 of 2009 and 6202 of 2009 challenging the TDSAT Order dated 12-5-2009. The Hon'ble Supreme Court admitted the Civil Appeals of BSNL on 09-11-2009 and directed all the concerned parties to file their respective

Counter Affidavits to the memorandum of appeals within four weeks. Hon'ble Supreme Court further ordered that payments, if any, if at all required to be made, will be subject to the result of BSNL's appeals.

Promotion of two hundred dollar laptop by MIT

2324. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a foreign firm Media Labs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is in India to promote the two hundred dollar laptop which was specially designed and manufactured for children in rural areas under 'one laptop per child' project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many States such as Manipur, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh have placed orders for 72000 laptops with them;

(d) whether the Media Labs has requested Government to remove import duties and other taxes on these laptops; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) As per a Media Report *(www.mydigitafc.com),* Dr. Nicholas Nagroponte, the Co-founder of media Labs at Massachusetts Institutes of Technology (MIT), is in India to promote the $ 200 laptop, which was specially designed and manufactured for children in rural areas.

(c) The Government of Manipur has launched a pilot project by engaging OLPC (One laptop per Child) for e-learning. The project includes supply of 1000 OLPC laptops along with preloaded software and costs associated with training and demonstration.

(d) and (e) The Department of Information Technology, Government of India has not received any such proposal from the Media Labs, MIT. However, laptops in any case, being covered under ITA (Information Technology Agreement), are exempted from basic customs duty.

Creating of level playing field

2325. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is in the process of creating a level playing field between the existing operators who are able to win 3G spectrum and others who are not able to win the award of 3G spectrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will mandate roaming of 2G subscribers of those operators who are not able to get 3G spectrum into the networks of other 3G operators; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?